and promotion of Punjabi language (item:11) have already been implemented. Action has been initiated to implement the remaining 3 items. All India Gurudwara Act (item:5); Territorial Claims (item:7) and Sharing of river waters (item:9), as well.

Territorial Claims (item 7): On the basis of the Venkataramiah Commission's report submitted on 10.6.1986, the question of specifying the villages comprising about 70,000 acres to be transferred from Punjab to Haryana in lieu of Chandigarh, has, on 20-6-86, been referred to Hon'ble Justice D.A. Desai, retired Judge, Supreme Court of India and Chairman of the Law Commission of India.

Sharing of river water (item: 9): A 3 Member Tribunal comprising Shri Justice V. Balakrishna Eradi, Judge of the Supreme Court as Chairman and Shri Justice A.M. Ahmadi, Judge of the Gujarat High Court and Shri Justice P. C. Balakrishna Menon, Judge of the Kerala High Court as two members of Tribunal, was constituted on 2nd April, 1986. The Tribunal submitted its Report on 30th January, 1987 and the same was forwarded by the Ministry of Water Resources to the concerned State Governments on 30th May, 1987.

All India Gurudwara Act (item:5): The Chief Ministers of all States and Union Territories have been requested to convey their views in the matter.

The Government has made sincere efforts to implement the Punjab Accord and further efforts in this direction are continuing.

Demand for autonomous State Comprising Karbi-Anglong and North Cachar Hills districts

186. SHRI CHITTA BASU: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a ministerial level Central team recently visited Karbi-Anglong and North Cachar Hills in Assam to gather first hand knowledge of the demand for creation of an autonomous States comprising the two hill districts;

(b) whether any report has since been submitted by the Central team; and

(c) if so, what are the salient features of the report?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

'Darjeeling Type', Stir in Sikkim

187. SHRI CHITTA BASU: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a 'Darjeeling tpye' stir is in the offing in Sikkim;

(b) what are the main demands on which such a stir is proposed; and

(c) what steps are being taken by the Central Government in that regard?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI BUTA SINGH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Jute modernisation fund

188. SHRI CHITTA BASU: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to refer to answer to the Starred Question 194 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 28th April, 1987 and state:

(a) whether the Jute Modernisation Fund of Rs. 150 crores has since been established;

(b) if so, what are the details of the schemes under the said Fund and the stages of implementation of the various schemes;

(c) whether the Jute Special Development Fund of Rs. 100 crores has also been created; and

(d) if so, what are the details of the schemes under the Fund and their implementation?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI S KRISHNA KUMAR): (a) and (b) The Jute Modernisation Fund Scheme of Rs. 150 crores became operative with effect from 1st November 1986 for a period of two years to be reviewed thereafter. Industrial Finance Corporation of India has been made the Nodal Agency to administer this Fund. Under the Jute Modernisation Fund assistance is available to all existing jute mills including weak but potentially viable jute mills Individual jute mills have to approach IFCI or IDBI for grant of loan for modernisation/rehabilitation of the mill under the Scheme. The loan is available at a reduced rate of interest which is 11.5 per cent upto Rs. 6.0 crores. A Special loan in respect of promoters 'contribution is also provided upto 80 per cent of the stipulated promoters' contribution at simple interest at the rate of 6 per cent per annum with a moratorium of 6 years. A Monitoring Committee under the Chairmanship of Secretary(Textiles) has been set up to coordinate, monitor and oversee the implementation of the Scheme.

IFCI and IDBI together have received 17 applications so far and one application has been sanctioned.

(c) and (d) Under the Plan Head of the Ministry of Textiles, Jute Special Development Fund of Rs. 100 crores has also been created. The distribution of outlays among various programmes under the Special Development Fund of Rs. 100 crores has been worked out as under:—

(Rs. in crores)

1	Jute Agricultural Development Programme	25·00
2	Assistance to Jute Corporation of India and its Cooperative procurement Agencies	10·00
3	Product diversification and R&D Support.	10·00
4	Schemes for the benefit of workers in the jute industry . . .	53·50
	TOTAL :	98·50

Study on rubber industry in India

189. SHRI M. S GURUPADASWAMY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have undertaken any study of the conditions prevailing in the rubber industry in India and particularly in Kerala;

(b) whether any steps have been taken to provide assistance to rubber growers; and

(c) what additional area was brought under rubber cultivation under the subsidised scheme during 1985 and 1986?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. R. DAS MUNSHI): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The Rubber Board has conducted some studies on conditions of rubber plantation industry. Assistance in the form of Cash-subsidy, scientific and technical support, supply of high yielding planting materials etc. is available to rubber growers. An area of 24,000 hectares @12,000 hectares annually) has been replanted/newplanted during 1981 and 1986 under the Rubber Plantation Development Scheme.